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February 25, 2014

Testimony on Assembly Bill 812

Representative Keith Ripp Assembly Committee on Transportation

I want to thank committee members for allowing me to present testimony today in favor of Assembly Bill 812.

This bill was brought to us by the Department of Transportation (DOT). The purpose of this proposal is to create clear statutory language in order to prosecute vehicle emissions inspection fraud.

The emissions inspection network is comprised of approximately 200 Private Inspection Facilities distributed across different jurisdictions in southeastern Wisconsin. Under current statute, while emissions testing is required in specific areas, there is no crime or penalty for falsely reporting an emissions test result.

Emissions inspection fraud was identified at some Private Inspection Facilities in 2013. Prosecuting authorities had difficulty finding statutory language that applied to emissions inspection fraud, specifically those motorists who fraudulently procure or use the result of the emissions inspection in a registration application. Clear statutory language will make it easier for district attorneys in different jurisdictions to consistently prosecute similar fraudulent acts.

Thank you members, I ask for your support and I would be more than happy to answer any questions.